

# Past International President Johnny Balbo Passes Away



Johnny Balbo, who served as President of Lions Clubs International in 1974-75, died April 2, 1990. He had suffered a heart attack on March 23.

Past President Balbo was a member of the LaGrange, Illinois, Lions Club since 1952, served as District 1-A Governor in 1960-61 and was council chairman. He was a member of the International Board of Directors in 1965-67 and was elected Third International Vice President at the 1971 International Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. In recognition of his work on behalf of the association, he received 16 International President's awards, the Senior Master Key, the Supreme Extension Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He was also a Melvin Jones Fellow.

Lion Balbo was a member of the board of directors of Hadley School for the Blind and the board of trustees for Leader Dogs for the Blind. He was also a director of the Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

He was the owner of a mobile home park in LaGrange and, in 1955, retired after a 24-year career as a professional wrestler.

Funeral services were held April 8 in Quincy, Massachusetts, and International President William L. Woolard appointed Past International President Robert J. Uplinger to represent the association. Past President Balbo is survived by his wife, Ann, five children, 17 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.